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SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE WORK OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF
NATURAL HISTORY

ACCORDING to a press report the trustees of the American Museum of Natural History decided at their annual meeting at the home of Mr. Henry C. Frick greatly to broaden the scope of its work in aiding industrial, civil and artistic life in order to make up for some of the foreign deprivations due to the war.

Because so many American arts and industries have been thrown upon their own resources, the institution will intensify its efforts, to make its collections and publications widely and fully available. A review of last year's work noted that the difficulty of obtaining new patterns for dress fabrics and other textiles from abroad has sent designers to the museum stores of American primitive and Indian art. Manufacturers of pottery and other wares, too, are sending their designers to study ancient specimens.

For the extension of the work the trustees adopted the largest budget in its history, appropriating \$608,590 for the current year. They subscribed \$60,000 among themselves to make up a deficit in the maintenance account in addition to \$23,500 they already had subscribed to give to all employees a 10 per cent. bonus. To meet the higher cost of living it was decided to make the increased salaries permanent on a merit basis.

The income from the Morris K. Jesup endowment fund for 1917 was given as \$252,500. The museum has received all but 10 per cent. of the \$5,000,000 bequest, and expects to have the full amount in the course of the present year. This fund is used exclusively for scientific work, exploration, research and publication.

Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn announced that among bequests to the institution was one of \$250,000 from the estate of Amos F. Eno, of this city, and another of \$100,000 from that of James Gaunt, of England. Special attention is to be given this year to the department of anthropology, for the work of which in the last ten years \$456,000 has been expended.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

President, Henry Fairfield Osborn; *First Vice-president*, Cleveland H. Dodge; *Second Vice-president*, J. P. Morgan; *Treasurer*, Henry P. Davison, and *Secretary*, Adrian Iselin, Jr. The choice of trustees for the class of 1921 resulted in the reelection of Charles Lanier, Anson W. Hand, Frederick F. Brewster and R. Fulton Cutting.

The attendance at the meeting was the largest in the history of the institution. Those present were Adrian Iselin, Jr., Joseph H. Choate, Charles Lanier, Percy R. Pyne, T. De Witt Cuyler, A. D. Juilliard, Arthur Curtiss James, Cleveland H. Dodge, John B. Trevor, Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn, Felix M. Warburg, Ogden Mills, Dr. Walter B. James, Madison Grant, Frederick F. Brewster, R. Fulton Cutting, Archer M. Huntington, Henry C. Frick and Cabot Ward.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN WASHINGTON

THE Washington legislature of 1915 appointed an educational commission of three members and three representatives to make a survey of the educational institutions of Washington (State College of Washington, University of Washington and the three normal schools). This commission secured the services of the U. S. Bureau of Education in making the survey, the results of which were recently published as a bulletin by the Bureau of Education. This report recommended the transference of the graduate work in engineering and pure science from the state college to the university, also the transference of several departments from the college to the university. The matter was brought before the present legislature in the form of a bill putting into effect the provisions of this report. This bill, however, failed of passage and in its stead a substitute bill was passed providing:

Sec. 2. The courses of instruction of the University of Washington shall embrace as exclusive major lines, law, architecture, forestry, commerce, journalism, library economy, marine and aeronautic engineering and fisheries.

Sec. 3. The courses of instruction of the State College of Washington shall embrace as exclusive major lines, agriculture in all its branches and

subdivisions, veterinary medicine and economic science in its application to agriculture and rural life.

Sec. 4. The courses of instruction of both the University of Washington and the State College of Washington shall embrace as major lines, liberal arts, pure science, pharmacy, mining, civil engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, chemical engineering, home economics, and the professional training of high-school teachers, school supervisors and school superintendents. These major lines shall be offered and taught at said institutions only.

Sec. 5. Work and instruction in medicine when introduced or developed shall be offered and taught at the University of Washington exclusively.

The bill further provides for a joint board of higher curricula of nine members chosen from the presidents and regents of the five state institutions of higher learning. In the future all major lines of work taken up by any institution of higher learning of the state must first be passed upon and approved by a two thirds vote of said board of higher curricula.

In addition to this, an act was passed granting in perpetuity to the State College all of the federal land formerly allotted to the state for a scientific school and further provided:

Sec. 2. All funds granted by the United States government under the Morrill act, passed by congress and approved July 2, 1862, together with all acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto, for the support and in aid of colleges of agriculture and mechanic arts, as well as experiment stations and farms and extension work in agriculture and home economics in connection with colleges of agriculture and mechanic arts are hereby allotted to the State College of Washington.

GRANTS FOR SCIENTIFIC WORK FROM THE LOUTREUIL FUND

Nature quotes from the *Comptes rendus* of the Paris Academy of Sciences the report of the council of the Loutreuil Foundation. The grants allotted are divided into three groups, as follows:

Establishments Mentioned by the Testator.—(1) Museum of Natural History. Two thousand francs to Professor Louis Roule for the continuation of his researches on the migratory fishes of French marine and fresh

waters, the Salmonidæ in particular. Ten thousand francs for refitting the maritime laboratory of the Island of Tatihou at Saint-Vaast-La-Hougue. This laboratory has been used as a concentration camp since the outbreak of war, and considerable damage has been done. (2) The Collège de France. Seven hundred francs to E. Gley to complete the frigorific installation for which an allocation was made last year. Four thousand three hundred and fifty francs to Professor Nageotte for the purchase of apparatus for pursuing his studies on the regeneration of nerves. Four thousand francs to M. l'Abbé Rousselot for continuing and developing the experiments commenced by him on locating artillery by sound. (3) Conseil Central des Observatories. Fifteen thousand francs to the Observatory of Paris for the improvement of astronomical instruments applied to the determination of time. One thousand five hundred francs to the Observatory of Marseilles for ensuring the publication of the *Journal des Observateurs*. (4) Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire d'Alfort. Seven thousand francs to this school for the purchase of an apparatus for kinematographic registration and projection; this will be of great service in the study and demonstration of various movements in the normal or pathological state. (5) Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire de Lyon. Eight hundred and fifty francs to Charles Porcher for the purchase of instruments to be used in his researches on milk. Eight hundred francs to François Maignon for the purchase of a balance and a small hydraulic press, to be used in his researches on nutrition. (6) Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire de Toulouse. Five thousand francs to this school for a radiological installation to be used in the diagnosis of diseases of animals.

Establishments Nominated to the Committee by the President of the Academy.—(1) Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers. Four thousand francs to Louis Blaringhem for the creation of a typical collection for the determination and classification of the woods used in the aeronautic industry. Five thousand francs conditionally to James Dantzer for the creation of a laboratory for the testing of textiles,